

# Government of the District of Columbia

## Department of Transportation



July 9, 2020

Brian Ready, Chairperson  
Advisory Neighborhood  
Commission 6B  
622 1/2 I St SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
6B03@anc.dc.gov

Gail Fast, Chairperson  
Advisory Neighborhood  
Commission 6D  
1101 4th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20024  
6D01@anc.dc.gov

### **NOI# 20-006-TDD**

#### **Re: Car Free Lanes in Ward 6**

Dear Chairperson Ready and Chairperson Fast,

Pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Amendment Act of 2000” D.C. LAW 13-249 (48 DCR 3491 April 20, 2001), the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is required to give a written notice of our intent (NOI) to modify traffic and/or parking requirements.

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is installing three quick-build bus priority lanes to help residents safely and efficiently travel everywhere they live, work, and play in the District. The curb lanes of M Street SE between 10th Street SE and Half Street SE will be car free, only allowing buses and bicycles to travel during the morning (7:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.) and evening (4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.) peak periods.

The M Street SE Car Free Lanes are part of the DDOT Bus Priority Program, the Bowser Administration’s initiative to enhance bus speed and reliability across all eight wards of the District. These bus priority projects are implemented quickly, require minimal design, and help address current and future needs for Metrobus and Circulator service. Dedicated bus lanes will allow WMATA and Circulator to efficiently operate their routes and help passengers to avoid crowds and maintain physical distance on buses. Following installation, DDOT will study the performance of buses, bicycles, and traffic in the corridor to assess benefits, impacts, and necessary refinements. This letter is being forwarded to you for the purpose of notification and solicitation of comments of our intent to implement the following in your jurisdiction.

This project will also include an assessment of effects on historical and cultural resources in accordance with the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966

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(NHPA). DDOT is inviting anyone, who is interested, to participate in the Section 106 process as a consulting party.

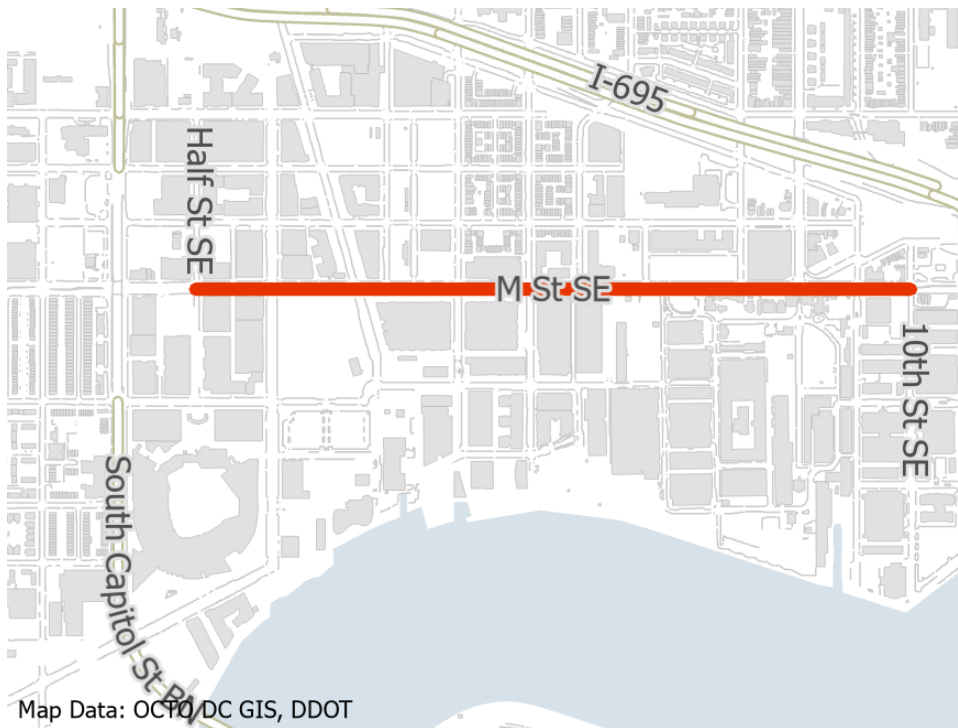
The details of the project have been reviewed and refined by key teams at DDOT including: Vision Zero, Traffic Engineering and Signals, Traffic Operations and Safety, Planning and Sustainability (Active Transportation and Freight Planning), Parking and Ground Transportation, and Transit Delivery. The project lies within the boundaries of ANC 6B and 6D.

In addition to M Street SE, DDOT will implement quick-build red bus lane projects on the following corridors:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW between Pennsylvania Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue between W Street SE and St. Elizabeths East Campus

More information on all of the Car Free Lane corridors has been posted on DDOT's website: <https://ddot.dc.gov/page/car-free-lanes-buses-and-bikes>

Below is a map of the project boundaries and elements of the M Street SE project.



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### **DDOT will implement Car Free Lanes on M Street SE between Half Street SE and 10<sup>th</sup> Street SE that will:**

- Allow only buses and bikes to use the curbside lanes during the AM peak (7am-9:30am) and PM peak (4pm-6:30pm) period.

The Car Free Lanes will be painted red to designate their use. White bicycle shared lane pavement markings will also be installed in the Car Free Lanes. Parking is currently rush hour restricted on M Street SE when the Car Free Lanes are in operation, so no parking will be removed as part of this project. However, on one block face, the times that parking are allowed will be updated to match the rest of the corridor and allow for the operation of the Car Free Lanes:

- Approximately five parking spaces on the north side of M Street SE between 9<sup>th</sup> Street SE and 10<sup>th</sup> Street SE. Parking on this block is currently allowed all day. Parking will be restricted in the AM peak (7-9:30am) and PM peak (4-6:30pm) when the Car Free Lanes are in operation, consistent with the rest of the corridor.

Right turns are permitted from the Car Free Lanes and all alley and driveway access will be maintained.

All comments on this subject matter must be filed in writing by September 21, 2020 (fifty-one business days after the date of this notice), with the District Department of Transportation, Yohannes Bennehoff, Transit Delivery Division, 55 M Street SE Washington, DC 20003 or by email at [yohannes.bennehoff@dc.gov](mailto:yohannes.bennehoff@dc.gov). DDOT will review and evaluate comments and make any necessary adjustments to the corridor following implementation.

If you would like to check the status of this Notice of Intent (NOI), please visit DDOT's website at <https://ddot.dc.gov/service/ddot-notice-intent>. If you are having any trouble accessing the NOI site or are unable to do so, please contact the DDOT Customer Service Clearinghouse at 202-671-2800.

Sincerely,

**Yohannes Bennehoff**  
Transportation Management Specialist, WMATA Coordination  
Transit Delivery Division

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Cc: Kirsten Oldenburg, Commissioner ANC 6B04  
Anna Forgie, Commissioner ANC 6D02  
Edward Daniels, Commissioner ANC 6D07  
Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council of the District of Columbia  
Jeanne Mattison, Director of Constituent Services for Councilmember Allen  
Tyler Williams, Ward 6 Liaison, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and  
Services  
Michael Stevens, President of the Capitol Riverfront BID